

4422(3) SANDY  
LIBRARY

SANDY URBAN DISTRICT

---

# ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

1949

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector



# ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1949

---

---

*To the Chairman and Members of  
the Sandy Urban District Council*

---

---

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health, vital statistics and sanitary conditions in Sandy Urban District for the year 1949.

From the Statistical table, it will be seen that the death rate, which was 11.0, was the lowest since 1942, and was lower than the rate for England and Wales which was 11.8. The Infant Mortality rate of 18.5 was also the lowest since 1942 and was very considerably lower than the rate of 32 for the country as a whole. The Birth rate showed a very considerable decline, being 14.8 as compared with 18.0 in 1947. The rate for England and Wales was 16.7.

Of the 116 cases of Infectious Disease notified there were 91 cases of Measles and 20 cases of Whooping Cough, but no deaths were recorded from these diseases.

I should like to thank the Clerk to the Council and the Sanitary Inspector for their co-operation and help.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

C. A. HARVEY.

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## GENERAL STATISTICS

|  |     |     |     |     |              |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| Area (in acres)                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4362         |
| Registrar-General's Estimate of Population | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3650         |
| Number of inhabited houses at end of 1949  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1182         |
| Rateable Value                             | ... | ... | ... | ... | £17872       |
| Sum represented by a penny rate            | ... | ... | ... | ... | £66 5s. 11d. |

## VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

### Live Births

|   |     |     | Males | Females | Total |
|---|-----|-----|-------|---------|-------|
| Legitimate                              | ... | ... | 25    | 24      | 49    |
| Illegitimate                            | ... | ... | 3     | 2       | 5     |
|   |     |     | —     | —       | —     |
|   |     |     | 28    | 26      | 54    |
| Birth Rate per 1000 civilian population |     |     |       | ...     | 14.8  |
| Birth Rate for England and Wales        | ... |     |       | ...     | 16.7  |

### Still Births

|   |     |     | Males | Females | Total |
|---|-----|-----|-------|---------|-------|
| Legitimate                                    | ... | ... | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| Illegitimate                                  | ... | ... | 0     | 0       | 0     |
|   |     |     | —     | —       | —     |
|   |     |     | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| Still Birth Rate per 1000 civilian population | ... |     |       | ...     | 0.27  |
| Still Birth Rate for England and Wales        | ... |     |       | ...     | 0.39  |

### Deaths

|   |                   |     | Males | Females | Total |
|---|-------------------|-----|-------|---------|-------|
| All causes  | ...               | ... | 27    | 20      | 47    |
| Death Rate per 1000 civilian population                           |                   |     |       | ...     | 11.0  |
| Death Rate for England and Wales                                  | ...               |     |       | ...     | 11.8  |
| Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child birth : |                   |     |       |         |       |
|   | From Sepsis       | ... | ...   | ...     | 0     |
|   | From other causes |     |       | ...     | 0     |
|   |                   |     |       | —       | —     |
|   | Total             | ... |       | ...     | 0     |

### Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age

|   |     |     | Males | Females | Total |
|---|-----|-----|-------|---------|-------|
| Legitimate                                | ... | ... | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| Illegitimate                              | ... | ... | 0     | 0       | 0     |
|   |     |     | —     | —       | —     |
|   |     |     | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| Rate for all infants per 1000 live births |     |     |       | ...     | 18.5  |
| Rate for England and Wales                | ... |     |       | ...     | 32.0  |



Deaths from :

|                                  |     |     |     |     |    |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Measles (all ages)               | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  |
| Whooping Cough                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  |
| Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  |
| Influenza                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | —  |
| Cancer (all ages)                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 |

CAUSES OF DEATH

The following table shows causes of death as given in the Registrar-General's statistics.

| Causes of Death |  |     |     | Males | Females |
|-----------------|--|-----|-----|-------|---------|
| All Causes      | ...  | ... | ... | 27    | 20      |
| 1.              | Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers             | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 2.              | Cerebro-spinal Fevers                      | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 3.              | Scarlet Fever                              | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 4.              | Whooping Congh                             | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 5.              | Diphtheria                                 | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 6.              | Tuberculosis of Respiratory System         | ... | ... | 1     | 1       |
| 7.              | Other Forms of Tuberculosis                | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 8.              | Syphilitic Diseases                        | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 9.              | Influenza                                  | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 10.             | Measles                                    | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 13.             | Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis  | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 12.             | Acute Infective Encephalitis               | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 13.             | Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus [M] | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
|                 | Uterus [F]                                 | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 14.             | Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum...          | ... | ... | 1     | ...     |
| 15.             | Cancer of Breast                           | ... | ... | ...   | 1       |
| 16.             | Cancer of all other Sites                  | ... | ... | 7     | 3       |
| 17.             | Diabetes                                   | ... | ... | ...   | 1       |
| 18.             | Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions             | ... | ... | 1     | 2       |
| 19.             | Heart Disease                              | ... | ... | 6     | 9       |
| 20.             | Other Diseases of Circulatory System       | ... | ... | 3     | ...     |
| 21.             | Bronchitis                                 | ... | ... | 1     | 2       |
| 22.             | Pneumonia                                  | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 23.             | Other Respiratory Diseases                 | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 24.             | Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum               | ... | ... | 1     | ...     |
| 25.             | Diarrhoea under 2 years                    | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 26.             | Appendicitis                               | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 27.             | Other Digestive Diseases                   | ... | ... | 1     | ...     |
| 28.             | Nephritis                                  | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 29.             | Puerperal and Post-Abortion Sepsis         | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 30.             | Other Maternal Causes...                   | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 31.             | Premature Birth                            | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 32.             | Congenital Malformation, Birth Injuries,   | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
|                 | Infantile Diseases                         | ... | ... | 1     | ...     |
| 33.             | Suicide                                    | ... | ... | ...   | 1       |
| 34.             | Road Traffic Accidents                     | ... | ... | 1     | ...     |
| 35.             | Other Violent Causes                       | ... | ... | ...   | ...     |
| 36.             | All Other Causes                           | ... | ... | 3     | ...     |

## STATISTICAL TABLE, 1940-1949

| Year | Death Rate |                 | Birth Rate |                 | Infant Mortality Rate |                 |
|------|------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
|      | Sandy U.D. | England & Wales | Sandy U.D. | England & Wales | Sandy U.D.            | England & Wales |
| 1940 | 10.5       | 14.3            | 10.5       | 14.6            | 52.6                  | 55              |
| 1941 | 15.3       | 12.9            | 14.8       | 14.2            | 33.3                  | 59              |
| 1942 | 8.2        | 11.6            | 17.1       | 15.8            | 0.0                   | 49              |
| 1943 | 12.9       | 12.1            | 19.2       | 16.5            | 73.5                  | 49              |
| 1944 | 18.1       | 11.6            | 24.2       | 17.6            | 45.4                  | 46              |
| 1945 | 12.8       | 11.4            | 18.5       | 16.1            | 30.7                  | 46              |
| 1946 | 13.2       | 11.5            | 19.6       | 19.1            | 44.1                  | 43              |
| 1947 | 15.1       | 12.0            | 18.6       | 20.5            | 46.0                  | 41              |
| 1948 | 12.5       | 10.8            | 18.0       | 17.9            | 31.7                  | 34              |
| 1949 | 11.0       | 11.8            | 14.8       | 16.7            | 18.5                  | 32              |

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

### Public Health Officers—

Medical Officer of Health—  
C. A. Harvey, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector—  
R. W. Settle, A.I.A.S., F.F.S. (Eng.), M.R.S.I.

### Laboratory Facilities

The services of the Public Health Laboratory Department of Pathology, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge, is available for the examination of any material submitted by the Health Department or by General Practitioners. This service is under the direction of the Medical Research Council through the Ministry of Health, and there is no charge to the Council. The Laboratory undertakes the examination of throat swabs, sputum, urine and fæces, and blood from cases of suspected infectious disease, and advice and assistance is always available.

### Ambulance Facilities

The Bedfordshire County Council provides a complete service covering the whole of the County. The service is a twenty-four hour one and is free of charge, and is available for the removal of all cases requiring admission to hospital and also for the transport of patients who are unable to use other means of transport to and from Hospitals or Clinics, so that they can receive any necessary treatment. The request for the provision of an ambulance must be made by a General Practitioner or by an Authorised Person.

The service is also available for the transport of persons suffering from infectious disease to isolation hospital.

The following depots are situated in the eastern and northern districts of the County :—

Biggleswade ... Crab Lane ... Tel.—Biggleswade 2295  
Bedford ... Newnham Avenue Bedford 67321

### Midwifery and Domociliary Nursing Services

The County Council is responsible for this service under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946. The service is free, and in the District there is one Nurse Midwife available.

### Clinics and Treatment Centres

#### Child Welfare

Church Room, Sandy—Every alternate Thursday afternoon.

#### Venereal Diseases

Bedford County Hospital. The days and times of attendance are :

|         |                    |          |
|---------|--------------------|----------|
| Males   | Monday to Friday   | 4—8 p.m. |
| Females | Monday and Tuesday | 6 p.m.   |
|         | Wednesday          | 5—7 p.m. |
|         | Thursday           | 5 p.m.   |
|         | Friday             | 3—5 p.m. |

#### Tuberculosis

The Chest Clinic, St Peter's Hospital, Kimbolton Road, Bedford.

The days and times of attendance are :

|           |                     |  |
|-----------|---------------------|--|
| Monday    | 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.    | Refills (A.P. and P.P.)                      |
| Tuesday   | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.    | } Women and children—new<br>and old patients |
|           | 2 p.m. to 5 30 p.m. |  |
| Wednesday | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.    | Contacts                                     |
|           | 2 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. | Old patients—male and female                 |
| Thursday  | 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. | Males—old and new patients                   |
| Friday    | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.    | Refills (A.P. and P.P.)                      |
|           | 2 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. | Special cases                                |

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Water Supply

Water is supplied to the area by the Biggleswade Water Board and has proved very satisfactory in quality and quantity. Samples have been taken periodically during the year and the results have shown that the supply is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity. The following report by the Counties Public Health Laboratories of a sample sent for examination on 20th July, 1949, is typical.

### Chemical Results in parts per Million

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Appearance—Bright, with a very slight deposit of iron oxide |     |
| Colour (Hazen)  | Nil |
| Odour   | Nil |
| Reaction pH.  | 7.3 |



|   |       |       |                                |        |
|---|-------|-------|--------------------------------|--------|
| Free Carbon Dioxide .....                 | ..... | ..... | .....                          | 16     |
| Electric Conductivity at 20 degs. C.      | ..... | ..... | .....                          | 485    |
| Total Solids dried at 180 degs. C.        | ..... | ..... | .....                          | 325    |
| Chlorine in Chlorides .....               | ..... | ..... | .....                          | 17     |
| Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate .....     | ..... | ..... | .....                          | 220    |
| Hardness. Total .....                     | ..... | ..... | .....                          | 250    |
| Carbonate (Temporary) .....               | ..... | ..... | .....                          | 220    |
| Non-Carbonate (Permanent) .....           | ..... | ..... | .....                          | 30     |
| Nitrogen in Nitrates .....                | ..... | ..... | .....                          | 0 00   |
| Nitrogen in Nitrites .....                | ..... | ..... | Less than                      | 0 01   |
| Free Ammonia .....                        | ..... | ..... | .....                          | 0 000  |
| Albuminoid Ammonia .....                  | ..... | ..... | .....                          | 0.000  |
| Metals .....                              | ..... | ..... | Iron 0.09. Other metals absent |        |
| Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27 degs. C. | ..... | ..... | .....                          | 0.00   |
| Residual Chlorine .....                   | ..... | ..... | .....                          | Absent |

## Bacteriological Results

Number of Colonies developing on Agar per cc. or ml. in

|                            |       |       |       |   |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|---|
| 1 day at 37 degs. C. ....  | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |
| 2 days at 37 degs. C. .... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |
| 3 days at 20 degs. C. .... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |

|                               |                                  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Presumptive Coliform Reaction | Present in - absent from 100 ml. |
| Bact. coli .....              | Present in - absent from 100 ml. |
| Cl. welchii Reaction .....    | Present in - absent from 100 ml. |

This sample is clear and bright in appearance. Since it carries only a trace of matter in suspension, is neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a minute trace of iron. The water is hard in character but not unduly so and it contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution. It is of a high standard of organic and bacterial purity.

These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

## Rainfall

| Month           | Total       | Greatest Rainfall in 24 hours |        | No. of days with |             |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------------|--------|------------------|-------------|
|                 |             | Inches                        | Date   | .01 or over      | .04 or over |
| January .....   | .85         | .16                           | 3 & 15 | 11               | 7           |
| February .....  | .99         | .40                           | 8      | 7                | 5           |
| March .....     | .99         | .37                           | 15     | 6                | 5           |
| April .....     | 1.34        | .35                           | 21     | 9                | 8           |
| May .....       | 1.96        | .88                           | 16     | 11               | 5           |
| June .....      | .55         | .20                           | 3      | 5                | 4           |
| July .....      | 1.70        | .78                           | 17     | 5                | 3           |
| August .....    | .87         | .40                           | 1      | 5                | 5           |
| September ..... | .44         | .27                           | 22     | 5                | 4           |
| October .....   | 3.94        | 1.17                          | 23     | 13               | 13          |
| November .....  | 2.25        | .84                           | 5      | 14               | 13          |
| December .....  | 1.38        | .35                           | 18     | 14               | 11          |
|                 | <hr/> 17.26 |                               |        | <hr/> 105        | <hr/> 83    |



# **FACTORIES ACT, 1937**

## **Part 1**

### **1. Inspections**

| Premises   | Number<br>on<br>Register | Number of   |                    |                         |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
|  |                          | Inspections | Written<br>Notices | Occupiers<br>prosecuted |
| 1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..                   | 12                       | 32          | ...                | ...                     |
| 2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..                    | 32                       | 36          | ...                | ...                     |
| 3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ... .. | ...                      | ...         | ...                | ...                     |
| TOTAL ...  | 44                       | 68          | ...                | ...                     |

### **2. Cases in which defects were found**

| Particulars  | Number of cases in which defects were found |          |                   |                   | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|--|---|----------|-------------------|-------------------|---|
|  | Found                                       | Remedied | To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector |   |
| Want of cleanliness ... ..   | ...   | ...      | ...               | ...               | ...   |
| Overcrowding ... ..  | ...   | ...      | ...               | ...               | ...   |
| Unreasonable temperature   |   |          |                   |                   |   |
| Inadequate ventilation ... ..  | ...   | ...      | ...               | ...               | ...   |
| Ineffective drainage of floors ... ..  | ...   | ...      | ...               | ...               | ...   |
| Sanitary Conveniences—   |   |          |                   |                   |   |
| <i>a</i> —insufficient ... ..  | ...   | ...      | ...               | ...               | ...   |
| <i>b</i> —Unsuitable or defective ... ..   | ...   | ...      | ...               | ...               | ...   |
| <i>c</i> —Not separate for sexes ... ..  | ...   | ...      | ...               | ...               | ...   |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ... .. | ...   | ...      | ...               | ...               | ...   |
| TOTAL ...  | ...   | ...      | ...               | ...               | ...   |

Part VIII

OUTWORK

| Nature of Work                | Section 110  |   |   | Section 111                                      |                |              |
|-------------------------------|--|---|---|--|----------------|--------------|
|                               | No. of out-workers in August list required by Sec. 110 (1) (c) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council | No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists | No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises | Notices Served | Prosecutions |
| Wearing } Making<br>apparel } | ...  | ...   | ...   | ...  | ...            | ...          |

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

(a) General Statistics

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year, together with the number of cases admitted to hospital and the deaths from these diseases.

Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year 1949

| Disease                      |     |     |     | Total Cases notified | Cases admitted to Hospital | Total deaths registered |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Smallpox                     | ... | ... | ... | ...                  | ...                        | ...                     |
| Scarlet Fever                | ... | ... | ... | 1                    | ...                        | ...                     |
| Diphtheria                   | ... | ... | ... | ...                  | ...                        | ...                     |
| Typhoid                      | ... | ... | ... | ...                  | ...                        | ..                      |
| Paratyphoid                  | ... | ... | ... | ...                  | ...                        | ...                     |
| Puerperal Pyrexia            | ... | ... | ... | ...                  | ...                        | ...                     |
| Pneumonia                    | ... | ... | ... | ...                  | ...                        | ...                     |
| Cerebro-spinal Fever         | ... | ... | ... | ...                  | ...                        | ...                     |
| Acute Infective Encephalitis | ... | ... | ... | ...                  | ...                        | ...                     |
| Poliomyelitis                | ... | ... | ... | 1                    | 1                          | ...                     |
| Polioencephalitis            | ... | ... | ... | ...                  | ...                        | ...                     |
| Erysipelas                   | ... | ... | ... | ...                  | ...                        | ...                     |
| Dysentery                    | ... | ... | ... | ...                  | ...                        | ...                     |
| Malaria                      | ... | ... | ... | ...                  | ...                        | ...                     |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum        | ... | ... | ... | ...                  | ...                        | ...                     |
| Measles                      | ... | ... | ... | 91                   | ...                        | ...                     |
| Whooping Cough               | ... | ... | ... | 20                   | ...                        | ...                     |
| Jaundice                     | ... | ... | ... | 2                    | ...                        | ...                     |
| Food Poisoning               | ... | ... | ... | 1                    | ...                        | ...                     |



## **(b) Individual Disease**

### **Measles**

Ninety-one cases were notified compared with two in 1948. There were no deaths.

### **Whooping Cough**

Twenty cases were notified compared with 23 in the previous year. No deaths occurred.

### **Scarlet Fever**

One case was notified and was nursed at home.

### **Poliomyelitis**

One case was notified and admitted to hospital. There was slight paralysis of one limb.

### **Food Poisoning**

One case was notified. The source was considered to be food consumed outside the district but no confirmation was obtained.

### **Jaundice**

Two cases were notified.

The North West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board is responsible for hospital accommodation for the treatment of infectious disease and the hospitals available in the County are at Steppingley and Luton.

## **Cleansing of Verminous Persons**

### **Scabies Order, 1941**

Treatment for infected persons is available at the Borough Treatment Centre, Bedford, by arrangement with the Borough of Bedford. No persons received treatment during the year.

## **Artificial Immunisation against Diphtheria**

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the County Council is responsible for the provision of protective treatment against Diphtheria for the children under the age of 15 years. This treatment can be obtained free of charge from the family doctor at his Surgery or at Child Welfare Clinics or Schools.



The figures relating to immunisation are given below and have been supplied by the Eastern Divisional Medical Officer. These figures show that more children under the age of 5 years have been immunised than in past years and that 78% of children under 5 years of age have been immunised.

Since protective treatment has been made available throughout the country not only have there been a remarkable decline in the number of cases of Diphtheria but also in the number of deaths from the disease.

### Immunisation in Relation to Child Population

| Numbers of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation<br>at any time up to 31st December, 1949 |                    |           |           |           |           |                   |                     |                      |
|--|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Age at<br>31.12.49, i.e.<br>born in year   | Under<br>1<br>1949 | 1<br>1948 | 2<br>1947 | 3<br>1946 | 4<br>1945 | 5 to 9<br>1941-44 | 10 to 14<br>1936-40 | Total<br>under<br>15 |
| Number<br>Immunised  | 10                 | 83        | 73        | 48        | 28        | 91                | 92                  | 425                  |
| Estimated<br>mid-year<br>population<br>1949  | 242                |           |           |           |           | 183               |                     |                      |
|  | 309                |           |           |           |           | 474               |                     |                      |

### II. Primary Immunisation during the Year 1949

| Number of children during the year 1949 who completed a full course of Primary Immunisation in the Authority's Area (including Temporary residents). |                 |           |           |           |           |                     |                       |                |
|--|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Age at 31.12.49, i.e. born in year   | Under 1<br>1949 | 1<br>1948 | 2<br>1947 | 3<br>1946 | 4<br>1945 | 5 to 9<br>1940-1944 | 10 to 14<br>1935-1939 | Total under 15 |
| Number Immunised   | 10              | 76        | 20        | 6         | 2         | 13                  | 6                     | 133            |

### III. Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths in relation to Immunisation

| Age at date of notification | Number of cases notified | No. of cases included in preceding column in which child had completed full course of Immunisa'n | Age at date of Death | Number of Deaths | No. of cases included in preceding column in which child had completed full course of Immunisa'n |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--|----------------------|------------------|--|
| Under 1                     | .....                    | .....  | Under 1              | .....            | .....  |
| 1                           | .....                    | .....  | 1                    | .....            | .....  |
| 2                           | .....                    | .....  | 2                    | .....            | .....  |
| 3                           | .....                    | .....  | 3                    | .....            | .....  |
| 4                           | .....                    | .....  | 4                    | .....            | .....  |
| 5 to 9                      | .....                    | .....  | 5 to 9               | .....            | .....  |
| 10 to 14                    | .....                    | .....  | 10 to 14             | .....            | .....  |
| Totals                      | NIL                      | .....  | Totals               | NIL              | .....  |

### TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the number of new cases, and the number of deaths in their age groups.

#### Age Distribution of Cases and Deaths

| Age Periods    | New Cases   |     |                 |     | Deaths      |     |                 |     |
|----------------|-------------|-----|-----------------|-----|-------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
|                | Respiratory |     | Non-Respiratory |     | Respiratory |     | Non-Respiratory |     |
|                | M           | F   | M               | F   | M           | F   | M               | F   |
| 0 ... ..       | ...         | ... | ...             | ... | ...         | ... | ...             | ... |
| 1 ... ..       | ...         | ... | ...             | ... | ...         | ... | ...             | ... |
| 5 ... ..       | ...         | ... | ...             | ... | ...         | ... | ...             | ... |
| 10 ... ..      | ...         | ... | ...             | ... | ...         | ... | ...             | ... |
| 15 ... ..      | ...         | 1   | ...             | ... | ...         | ... | ...             | ... |
| 20 ... ..      | ...         | ... | ...             | 1   | ...         | ... | ...             | ... |
| 25 ... ..      | 1           | 1   | ...             | ... | ...         | ... | ...             | ... |
| 35 ... ..      | 1           | 1   | ...             | ... | ...         | ... | ...             | ... |
| 45 ... ..      | ...         | ... | ...             | ... | 1           | ... | ...             | ... |
| 55 ... ..      | ...         | ... | ...             | ... | ...         | 1   | ...             | ... |
| 65 and upwards | ...         | 1   | ...             | ... | ...         | ... | ...             | ... |
| Totals         | 2           | 4   | ...             | 1   | 1           | 1   | ...             | ... |

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

# REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR FOR THE YEAR 1949

---

MR. CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Sanitary Conditions.

## 1. Drainage and Sewerage

The town is sewered along the main streets. The sewer runs from the Station Bridge, along High Street, Bedford Road, and a portion of London Road, with branches from St. Swithun's Way, Cambridge Road, Pleasant Place, Park Road, King's Road, The Avenue, Fuller's Cafe, Laburnum Road, Church Path, Queen's Road and South Road. A second sewer runs from Brickhill Road across the Roods into St. Neots Road opposite the Council Offices and connects to the first sewer at the junction of St. Neots Road and Bedford Road, and has a branch from Northcroft. A third commences at the Council Offices and runs north along St. Neots Road, West Road to South Road, and through the gardens of West Road to London Road, connecting to number one opposite All Saints Church, with branches from Longfield Road, East Road and South Road. A fourth commences in St. Neots Road approximately opposite East Road and runs north to London Road then south in London Road, where it connects with the first sewer at Hamlet End Farm, with a branch from Carter Street. From London Road opposite Hamlet End Farm the sewage is conveyed in a 15" main to the Sewage Disposal Works.

Swaden, Stratford Road, Station Road, Ivel Road, Mill Lane, Tempsford Road, Beeston and Seddington are not sewered.

## 1. Rivers and Streams

The Ivel Internal Drainage Board undertake the cleaning of all streams. The Council during the year trimmed over two miles of ditches.

## 3. Closet Accommodation

There are 1014 houses on the water carriage system, 152 pails and privies. Included in these figures are 174 houses connected to cesspools.

### Conversions from Pails to Water Closets

|            |             |             |              |
|------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1946 ... 3 | 1947 ... 15 | 1948 ... 15 | 1949 ... NIL |
|------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|

## 4. Public Cleansing

The collection of household refuse and the emptying of pails is carried out by the Council's workmen. The work is generally satisfactory. The emptying of cesspools is carried out by contract.



The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year :—

|  |       |       |        |
|--|-------|-------|--------|
| Total number of visits made            | ..... | ..... | 76,684 |
| Ashbins emptied                        | ..... | ..... | 63,424 |
| Privies emptied                        | ..... | ..... | 1      |
| Cesspools emptied                      | ..... | ..... | 23     |
| Pail Closets emptied                   | ..... | ..... | 13,250 |
| Loads of refuse and night soil removed | ..... | ..... | 642    |

Street Gullies are emptied regularly and street scavenging is done weekly.

The following table shows the quantities of salvage sold the year :—

|                                   | T  | C  | Q | £    | s. | d. |
|-----------------------------------|----|----|---|------|----|----|
| Mixed paper and cardboard         | 11 | 0  | 2 | 56   | 1  | 0  |
| Mixed iron and non-ferrous metals | 2  | 16 | 3 | 18   | 6  | 0  |
| Rags                              |    | 5  | 3 | 3    | 6  | 9  |
| Bagging                           |    |    | 3 |      | 9  | 3  |
| Kitchen waste (pig food)          | 51 | 11 | 1 | 77   | 8  | 0  |
| Total                             |    |    |   | £155 | 11 | 0  |

## 5. Sanitary Inspection of the Area

|  |       |       |     |
|--|-------|-------|-----|
| Inspections for housing defects  | ..... | ..... | 60  |
| Number of inspections made for the purpose                                       | ..... | ..... | 130 |
| Statutory Notices (Housing Acts)   | ..... | ..... | NIL |
| Statutory Notices (Public Health Acts)   | ..... | ..... | 2   |
| Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit at service of formal notices : |       |       |     |
| (a) By owner   | ..... | ..... | —   |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners                                      | ..... | ..... | 2   |
| Number of Informal Notices   | ..... | ..... | 23  |
| Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action         | ..... | ..... | 23  |
| Sanitary routine inspections   | ..... | ..... | 342 |
| Slaughter-houses and foodstuffs  | ..... | ..... | 24  |
| Factories and Workshops including bakehouses                                     | ..... | ..... | 70  |
| Dairies and cowsheds   | ..... | ..... | 18  |
| Infectious diseases and disinfection   | ..... | ..... | 1   |
| Water services   | ..... | ..... | 11  |

## 6. Shops

No action with regard to shops was found necessary.



7. **Smoke Abatement**

No action was necessary.

8. **Eradication of Bed Bugs**

No cases reported.

9. **Factories and Workshops**

There are 43 Factories and Workshops on the Register and 52 visits have been made.

|                 |       |      |                      |       |   |
|-----------------|-------|------|----------------------|-------|---|
| Builders        | ..... | } 12 | Electrician          | ..... | 1 |
| Joiners         | ..... |      | Millers              | ..... | 3 |
| Painters        | ..... |      | Motor Engineers..... |       | 6 |
| Plumbers        | ..... |      | Printers             | ..... | 1 |
| Bakers          | ..... | 6    | Saddlers             | ..... | 2 |
| Basket Maker    | ..... | 1    | Stone Mason          | ..... | 1 |
| Blacksmith      | ..... | 1    | Tailor               | ..... | 1 |
| Boot Repairers  | ..... | 4    | Wireless Repairer    |       | 1 |
| Cycle Repairers | ..... | 2    | Coach Builder        | ..... | 1 |
| Gas Works       | ..... | 1    |                      |       |   |

There are two outworkers.

All the premises are general satisfactory.

**Inspection and Supervision of Food**

(a) **Milk Supply**

5 Persons are registered under the Milk and Dairies Order.

3 Cowkeepers and wholesale Purveyors of Milk.

2 Retail Purveyors only.

(b) **Meat and Other Foods**

The slaughtering of animals for the sale of human consumption in this area was discontinued on the 15th January, 1940, under the Livestock (Restriction on Slaughtering) Order, 1940.

Shops, vehicles and places where food is prepared have been duly inspected and found to be in good order.

Voluntary surrender of the undermentioned foodstuffs found to be unfit for human consumption has been made, with the exception of imported and home-killed meat, the foodstuffs was either destroyed or salvaged for animal food.

|                               |       |       |          |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|----------|
| Imported and Home-killed Meat | ..... | ..... | 51 lbs.  |
| Fresh Fish                    | ..... | ..... | 98 lbs.  |
| Cheese                        | ..... | ..... | 3½ lbs.  |
| Canned Meats                  | ..... | ..... | 22¾ lbs. |
| Canned Fruit and Vegetables   | ..... | ..... | 51 lbs.  |
| Canned Fish                   | ..... | ..... | 3 lbs.   |
| Canned Milk                   | ..... | ..... | 7 lbs.   |
| Fresh Fruit                   | ..... | ..... | 208 lbs. |

### (c) Ice Cream

Five premises are registered for the sale of Ice Cream. It is purchased from reputable manufacturers. Ice cream is not manufactured in the Urban District.

### Sewage Disposal Works

The sewage arrives at the Works 13' 3" below the surface of the ground level and is lifted by two Mirrlees Watson electric motors and pumps. The motors have given an excellent performance, and the attention required is negligible. The motors are automatic which are governed by electrodes, three in number, one for each motor for starting purposes and one for stopping.

### Summary of Electricity Consumed

|                 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949   |
|-----------------|------|------|------|------|--------|
| January .....   |      | 829  | 975  | 862  | 797    |
| February .....  |      | 792  | 927  | 760  | 684    |
| March .....     |      | 997  | 938  | 785  | 750    |
| April .....     |      | 892  | 1115 | 758  | } 1609 |
| May .....       |      | 987  | 884  | 930  |        |
| June .....      |      | 941  | 850  | 898  | 767    |
| July .....      |      | 1050 | 854  | 762  | } 1424 |
| August .....    | 517  | 1068 | 649  | 909  |        |
| September ..... | 880  | 1116 | 631  | 824  | 608    |
| October .....   | 971  | 1006 | 596  | 812  | 851    |
| November .....  | 766  | 1109 | 627  | 782  | 789    |
| December .....  | 901  | 1054 | 702  | 784  | 761    |

## COUNCIL HOUSING

The following is a summary of the various defects, etc., which have been dealt with in connection with the Council's Houses.

### Summary of Repairs

|   |       |    |
|---|-------|----|
| Copper bricks supplied and fixed .....                  | ..... | 34 |
| Copper bricks repaired .....                            | ..... | 33 |
| Portable coppers supplied and fixed .....               | ..... | —  |
| Portable coppers supplied and fixed (second-hand) ..... | ..... | 4  |
| Portable coppers repaired .....                         | ..... | 25 |
| Copper pans supplied and fixed .....                    | ..... | 5  |
| Copper lids supplied .....                              | ..... | 12 |
| Electric coppers supplied .....                         | ..... | —  |
| Electric coppers repaired .....                         | ..... | 10 |
| Ceilings renewed .....                                  | ..... | 6  |
| Ceilings repaired .....                                 | ..... | 5  |
| Chimney stacks repaired .....                           | ..... | 7  |
| Chimney flues repaired .....                            | ..... | 14 |
| Chimney pots provided and fixed .....                   | ..... | 19 |
| W.C. Cisterns, new .....                                | ..... | 14 |
| W.C. Cisterns, adjusted .....                           | ..... | 80 |

|  |       |     |
|--|-------|-----|
| Decorations, internal or lime washing        | ..... | 9   |
| Doors, new                                   | ..... | 1   |
| Doors eased and repaired                     | ..... | 138 |
| Door furniture repaired or renewed           | ..... | 54  |
| Door hoods repaired                          | ..... | —   |
| Door steps repaired                          | ..... | 4   |
| Dust bins                                    | ..... | 30  |
| Draining boards, new                         | ..... | 15  |
| Draining boards repaired                     | ..... | 4   |
| Electric ovens repaired                      | ..... | 2   |
| Electrical defects                           | ..... | 2   |
| Drains re-laid                               | ..... | 11  |
| Drains repaired                              | ..... | 1   |
| Drains unblocked                             | ..... | 25  |
| Eaves, gutters, R.W.P., cleansed or repaired | ..... | 34  |
| Floors re-laid                               | ..... | 4   |
| Floors repaired                              | ..... | 16  |
| Fences renewed or repaired                   | ..... | —   |
| Gully surrounds                              | ..... | 16  |
| Gates, new                                   | ..... | —   |
| Gates repaired                               | ..... | —   |
| Gas cookers, new                             | ..... | —   |
| Gas cookers repaired                         | ..... | 3   |
| Hot water systems                            | ..... | —   |
| Interovens, new                              | ..... | —   |
| Interovens, second-hand                      | ..... | 1   |
| Interovens repaired                          | ..... | 19  |
| Lavatory basins, new                         | ..... | —   |
| Lavatory basins repaired                     | ..... | —   |
| Man-hole covers renewed                      | ..... | 1   |
| Man-hole covers repaired                     | ..... | 2   |
| Painting, externally                         | ..... | 91  |
| Plaster repaired                             | ..... | 26  |
| Pail closets                                 | ..... | 4   |
| Pavements, new                               | ..... | —   |
| Pavements repaired                           | ..... | 2   |
| Picture rails repaired                       | ..... | —   |
| Ranges, new                                  | ..... | 8   |
| Ranges, second-hand                          | ..... | —   |
| Ranges, repaired                             | ..... | 31  |
| Registers (tile), new                        | ..... | —   |
| Registers (tile), repaired                   | ..... | —   |
| Rain water tanks, new                        | ..... | —   |
| Rain water tanks repaired                    | ..... | 12  |
| Refrigerators repaired                       | ..... | —   |
| Roofs, ridges, etc., repaired                | ..... | 64  |
| Roughcasting repaired                        | ..... | 14  |
| Screens, new                                 | ..... | 1   |
| Screens repaired                             | ..... | 5   |
| Sinks, new                                   | ..... | 1   |

|   |       |       |       |    |
|---|-------|-------|-------|----|
| Sinks repaired                          | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3  |
| Sink and bath wastes, etc., unblocked   | ..... | ..... | ..... | 31 |
| Skirting boards repaired                | ..... | ..... | ..... | 10 |
| Taps (bib), new                         | ..... | ..... | ..... | 8  |
| Taps (stop), new                        | ..... | ..... | ..... | —  |
| Taps washered, re-seated or packed      | ..... | ..... | ..... | 72 |
| Soil pipes and vent shafts repaired     | ..... | ..... | ..... | 24 |
| Stairs and stair rails repaired         | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2  |
| Steps repaired                          | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2  |
| Soak-aways provided                     | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6  |
| Windows (steel), new                    | ..... | ..... | ..... | —  |
| Windows (steel), repaired               | ..... | ..... | ..... | 13 |
| Windows (wood), new                     | ..... | ..... | ..... | —  |
| Windows (wood)                          | ..... | ..... | ..... | 41 |
| Window heads repaired                   | ..... | ..... | ..... | —  |
| Windows cills, brick or stone, repaired | ..... | ..... | ..... | —  |
| Water services repaired                 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 48 |
| Water closet pedestals, new             | ..... | ..... | ..... | 22 |
| Water closet pedestals repaired         | ..... | ..... | ..... | —  |
| Water closet seats, new                 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 9  |
| Water closet seats repaired             | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6  |
| Water closet flush pipes                | ..... | ..... | ..... | 7  |

### Council Houses Painted

|             |             |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1946 ... 14 | 1947 ... 69 | 1948 ... 48 | 1949 ... 91 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|

### Number of Houses owned by the Council

|                                     |              |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1945 ... 225                        | 1948 ... 301 |
| 1946 ... 235 (10 prefab. bungalows) | 1949 ... 330 |
| 1947 ... 243                        |              |

### Number of Houses erected during the Year

| Year | Local Authority            | Private |
|------|----------------------------|---------|
| 1946 | ... 10 (prefab. bungalows) | ... 2   |
| 1947 | ... 8                      | ... 2   |
| 1948 | ... 58                     | ... 3   |
| 1949 | ... 29                     | ... 5   |

### Plans submitted during the Year 1949

#### APPROVED

|  |       |       |    |
|--|-------|-------|----|
| Dwelling Houses                          |       |       |    |
| (a) Local Authority                      | ..... | ..... | 20 |
| (b) Private                              | ..... | ..... | 10 |
| (c) Additions and Extensions             | ..... | ..... | 8  |
| Garages                                  | ..... | ..... | 5  |
| Agricultural and Horticultural Buildings | ..... | ..... | 6  |
| Industrial and Business Premises         | ..... | ..... | 9  |

#### REFUSED

|        |       |       |       |   |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|---|
| Cinema | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|---|



Civil Building Control

In August, 1945, Local Authorities were requested to undertake the licensing of building work within certain limits, under Defence Regulations 56A, also the granting of licenses for private builders to erect small houses. The following table shows the Building Licences issued during the year under review.

|  |       |       |         |         |
|--|-------|-------|---------|---------|
| Number of Licences granted for the erection of dwelling houses                         | ..... | ..... | .....   | 12      |
|  | Value | ..... | £17,178 | 0s. 0d. |
| Number of Licences granted for the repair, additions and extensions of dwelling-houses |       |       |         | 14      |
|  | Value | ..... | £3152   | 0s. 0d. |

Surveyor's Inspections

|   |       |       |       |     |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| Housing Sites                                       | ..... | ..... | ..... | 190 |
| Individual Houses in course of construction         | ..... | ..... | ..... | 850 |
| New Streets and Sewers                              | ..... | ..... | ..... | 57  |
| Alterations and Extensions to existing property     | ..... | ..... | ..... | 62  |
| Civil Building Licences (visits in connection with) | ..... | ..... | ..... | 52  |
| Sewage Disposal Works                               | ..... | ..... | ..... | 270 |

Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no privately owned or public swimming baths or pools in this district.

New Streets and Sewers

During the year there were no new roads or extensions to the sewers.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their consideration and support extended to me during the year, and to Mr. Usher, Clerk to the Council, and to Mr. Hanford, Finance Officer, and the staff for their kind assistance and loyal co-operation.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

REG. W. SETTLE, A.I.A.S., A.R.S.I.  
*Surveyor.*

